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Occupation Profile

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Selected Criteria:

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Pharmacy Technicians

Profile Content:

<u>Montana</u>

(content listed below)

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Tasks & Activities | Tools & Technology

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PHARMACY TECHNICIANS: MONTANA

Occupation Description

Prepare medications under the direction of a pharmacist. May measure, mix, count out, label, and record amounts and dosages of medications.

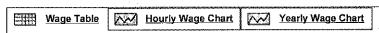
Career Video



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State and National Wages



Location	Pay	2009						
	Period	10%	25%	Median	75%	90%		
11.7.10.1.	Hourly	\$9.36	\$11.07	\$13.49	\$16.26	\$19.31		
United States	Yearly	\$19,500	\$23,000	\$28,100	\$33,800	\$40,200		
	Hourly	\$10.63	\$12.31	\$14.11	\$16.22	\$18.75		
Montana	Yearly	\$22,100	\$25,600	\$29,300	\$33,700	\$39,000		

Occupation Wages FAQs

Median Wage by Occupation Across States
Compare Wages by Occupation and Local Area
Compare Wages by Metropolitan Areas

National Data Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Employment Statistics Survey State Data Source: Montana Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) Wages

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State and National Trends

State d Oderon	Emplo	yment	Percent	Job Openings
United States	2008	2018	Change	1
Pharmacy technicians	326,300	426,000	+31%	18,200
	Emplo	yment	Percent	Job Openings
Montana	2008	2018	Change	1
Pharmacy technicians	960	1,110	+16%	40

¹Job Openings refers to the average annual job openings due to growth and net replacement.

Occupation Trends FAQs

Employment Trends by Occupation Across States Compare Employment Trends by Occupation Employment Trends by Industry and Occupation

National Data Source: <u>Bureau of Labor Statistics</u>, <u>Office of Occupational Statistics and Employment Projections</u>
State Data Source: <u>Montana Department of Labor & Industry</u>, <u>Research and Analysis Bureau</u>

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Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities

The most important knowledge, skills, and abilities (KSAs) are listed for Pharmacy Technicians.

Knowledge:

- Customer and Personal Service Knowledge of principles and processes for providing customer and personal services. This includes customer needs assessment, meeting quality standards for services, and evaluation of customer satisfaction.
- . Mathematics Knowledge of arithmetic, algebra, geometry, calculus, statistics, and their applications.
- English Language Knowledge of the structure and content of the English language including the meaning and spelling of words, rules of composition, and grammar.
- Computers and Electronics Knowledge of circuit boards, processors, chips, electronic equipment, and computer hardware and software, including applications and programming.
- Clerical Knowledge of administrative and clerical procedures and systems such as word processing, managing files and records, stenography and transcription, designing forms, and other office procedures and terminology.

Skills:

- Active Listening Giving full attention to what other people are saying, taking time to understand the
 points being made, asking questions as appropriate, and not interrupting at inappropriate times.
- Reading Comprehension Understanding written sentences and paragraphs in work related documents.
- Speaking Talking to others to convey information effectively.
- Critical Thinking Using logic and reasoning to identify the strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions, conclusions or approaches to problems.
- Service Orientation Actively looking for ways to help people.
- Social Perceptiveness Being aware of others' reactions and understanding why they react as they
 do.

Abilities:

- Near Vision The ability to see details at close range (within a few feet of the observer).
- Oral Comprehension The ability to listen to and understand information and ideas presented through spoken words and sentences.
- Written Comprehension The ability to read and understand information and ideas presented in writing.
- Oral Expression The ability to communicate information and ideas in speaking so others will
 understand.
- Problem Sensitivity The ability to tell when something is wrong or is likely to go wrong. It does not
 involve solving the problem, only recognizing there is a problem.
- Speech Recognition The ability to identify and understand the speech of another person.

Source: Occupational Information Network: Pharmacy Technicians.

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Tasks and Activities

Occupation specific tasks and the most important generalized work activities are listed for **Pharmacy Technicians**.

Occupation Specific Tasks:

- · Answer telephones, responding to questions or requests.
- Assist customers by answering simple questions, locating items or referring them to the pharmacist for medication information.
- Clean, and help maintain, equipment and work areas, and sterilize glassware according to prescribed methods.
- Compute charges for medication and equipment dispensed to hospital patients, and enter data in computer.
- Deliver medications and pharmaceutical supplies to patients, nursing stations or surgery.
- Establish and maintain patient profiles, including lists of medications taken by individual patients.
- Maintain and merchandise home health-care products and services.
- · Maintain proper storage and security conditions for drugs.
- Mix pharmaceutical preparations according to written prescriptions.
- · Operate cash registers to accept payment from customers.
- Order, label, and count stock of medications, chemicals, and supplies, and enter inventory data into computer.
- Prepack bulk medicines, fill bottles with prescribed medications, and type and affix labels.
- Prepare and process medical insurance claim forms and records.
- Price and file prescriptions that have been filled.
- · Price stock and mark items for sale.
- Receive and store incoming supplies, verify quantities against invoices, check for outdated medications in current inventory, and inform supervisors of stock needs and shortages.
- Receive written prescription or refill requests and verify that information is complete and accurate.
- Restock intravenous (IV) supplies and add measured drugs or nutrients to IV solutions under sterile
 conditions to prepare IV packs for various uses such as chemotherapy medication.
- Supply and monitor robotic machines that dispense medicine into containers, and label the containers.
- Transfer medication from vials to the appropriate number of sterile, disposable syringes, using aseptic techniques.

Generalized Work Activities:

- Processing Information Compiling, coding, categorizing, calculating, tabulating, auditing, or verifying information or data.
- Getting Information Observing, receiving, and otherwise obtaining information from all relevant sources
- Interacting With Computers Using computers and computer systems (including hardware and software) to program, write software, set up functions, enter data, or process information.
- Evaluating Information to Determine Compliance with Standards Using relevant information and individual judgment to determine whether events or processes comply with laws, regulations, or standards.
- Identifying Objects, Actions, and Events Identifying information by categorizing, estimating, recognizing differences or similarities, and detecting changes in circumstances or events.
- Updating and Using Relevant Knowledge Keeping up-to-date technically and applying new knowledge to your job.

Detailed Work Activities:

- · accept prescriptions for filling
- · adhere to safety procedures

- · answer customer or public inquiries
- clean rooms or work areas
- collect payment
- communicate technical information
- · compound pharmaceuticals or medical preparations
- compute financial data
- deliver or obtain mail, messages, records, food or other items
- dispense prescribed medications and pharmaceuticals
- distinguish colors
- follow safe waste disposal procedures
- interpret prescriptions
- inventory medical supplies or instruments
- inventory stock to ensure adequate supplies
- label phármaceutical supplies
- maintain customer records
- · maintain dental or medical records
- maintain established procedures concerning quality assurance
- maintain record of medication or equipment dispensed to patient
- · maintain records, reports, or files
- · measure, weigh, or count products or materials
- mix paint, ingredients, or chemicals, according to specifications
- monitor production machinery/equipment operation to detect problems
- · obtain information from clients, customers, or patients
- · order or purchase supplies, materials, or equipment
- post medical insurance billings
- · prepare sterile solutions, infusions, or intravenous packs
- price merchandise
- process medical records
- · provide customer service
- sell merchandise
- sterilize or clean laboratory or healthcare equipment
- stock or organize goods
- · store pharmaceutical supplies or filled prescriptions
- understand drug products
- understand government health, hotel or food service regulations
- understand properties or composition of drugs
- use cash registers
- · use clinical sterilizing technique
- use computers to enter, access or retrieve data
- · use health or sanitation standards
- use interpersonal communication techniques
- use knowledge of medical terminology
- use knowledge of metric system
- use laboratory equipment
- · use precision measuring tools or equipment
- use quality assurance techniques
- · use sanitation practices in health care settings
- use telephone communication techniques
- verify completeness or accuracy of data

Source: Occupational Information Network: Pharmacy Technicians

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Tools and Technology

Pharmacy Technicians View Detailed Report

Tools:

- Filling or sealing auger dose machines Automatic unit dose strip packaging machines, Tube filling and crimping machines
- Laboratory balances Double-beam balances, Equal-arm balances, Single-beam balances, Torsion balances, Unequal-arm balances
- Laboratory blenders or emulsifiers Blending/agitating machines, Total Parenteral Nutrition TPN
- . Laboratory mills Benchtop colloid mills, Colloid mills, Grinding and shearing colloid mills
- Sterile or aseptic processing or filling machines Automatic bottle filling machines, Computerbased dispensing equipment, Semiautomatic sterile solution transferring devices

Technology:

Accounting software - Billing and reimbursement software

Data base user interface and query software - Database software, Drug compatibility software

Enterprise resource planning ERP software - Pharmacy management software

Inventory management software - Cardinal Health Pyxis CII Safe, Inventory management software

Medical software - Compounder software, Patient record maintenance software, Pharmaceutical software, Prescription processing software

Source: Occupational Information Network: Pharmacy Technicians.

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Education and Training

Occupation: Pharmacy Technicians

Most Common Educational/Training Level: Moderate-term on-the-job training

Related Instructional Programs: Pharmacy Technician/Assistant

Distribution of Educational Attainment

	Percent			5 to 44 in the occupation whose highest level o catlonal attainment is			
Occupation	Less than high school diploma	High school diploma or equivalent	Some college, no degree	Associate's degree	Bachelor's degree	Master's degree	Doctoral or professional degree
Pharmacy technicians	2.5%	27.8%	34.1%	19%	14.1%	1.4%	1.1%
Health Technologists and Technicians	1.9%	19.6%	29.5%	25.6%	19.1%	2.3%	2.1%
Healthcare Practitioners and Technical	1.2%	10.4%	15.4%	15.4%	20.7%	11.6%	25.2%
Total, All Occupations	10.7%	27.6%	20.6%	8.9%	19.4%	8.3%	4.5%

Find colleges, training schools and instructional programs for this occupation.

Find education and training programs where you can earn a certificate, diploma, or award in less than 2 years with the Short-Term Training Finder.

Access additional Education Resources in the Career Resource Library.

Use the Financial Aid Advisor to help find funds for financing education.

WIA Eligible Training Provider List: http://www.mtjoblinc.com/training.asp

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Office of Occupational Statistics and Employment Projections (Education/Training Level, Educational Attainment); National Center for Education Statistics (Typical Instructional Programs)

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Related Occupation Profiles

Occupations with similar skill requirements

- **Animal Breeders**
- Cardiovascular Technologists and Technicians
- Dental Assistants
- Medical Records and Health Information Technicians
- Medical Secretaries
- Opticians, Dispensing

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Web Resources

The following resources are related to occupations in the job family Healthcare Practitioners and Technical

Health Diagnosing and Treating Practitioners Health Technologists and Technicians Other Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations

Health Diagnosing and Treating Practitioners

- AIDS Care Nurse, Nursing Spectrum
- Ambulatory Care Nurse, Nursing Spectrum
- Art Therapist, The Council for Exceptional Children
- Audiologist, American Medical Association
- Audiologists, Occupational Outlook Handbook
- Audiology, American Speech-Language-Hearing Association
- Becoming a Veterinarian, American Veterinary Medical Association
- Cardiac Rehabilitation Nurse, Nursing Spectrum
- Certified Nurse-Midwives and Licensed Midwives, California Occupational Guide
- Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists, American Association of Nurse Anesthetists
- Chiropractor, Princeton Review
- Chiropractors, Human Resources and Skills Development Canada
- Chiropractors, Occupational Outlook Handbook
- Chiropractors and Doctors of Chiropractic, California Occupational Guide
- Clinical Laboratory Science/Medical Technology Occupations, American Medical Association
- Coroners, Learn More Resource Center
- Correctional Nurse, Nursing Spectrum
- Cytotechnologist (CT), American Society for Clinical Pathology Dentist, American Dental Association
- Dentist, Princeton Review
- Dentists, Occupational Outlook Handbook
- Dentists, California Occupational Guide
- Dentists, Job Futures
- Denturists, Human Resources and Skills Development Canada
- Dietetics, American Medical Association
- Dietitians and Nutritionists, Occupational Outlook Handbook
- Dietitians and Nutritionists, Human Resources and Skills Development Canada
- <u>Doctor of Optometry</u>, Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry <u>Educational Audiologist</u>, The Council for Exceptional Children
- Emergency Nurse, Nurses for a Healthier Tomorrow
- Enterostomal Therapy Nurse, Nursing Spectrum Genetics Nurse, Nursing Spectrum
- Hospice Nurse, Princeton Review
- Hospice/Palliative Care Nurses, Nurses for a Healthier Tomorrow
- Infection Control Nurse, Nursing Spectrum
- Intravenous Therapy Nurse, Nursing Spectrum
- Kinesiotherapist, American Medical Association
- Labor and Delivery Staff Nurse, Nurses for a Healthier Tomorrow
- Long-Term Care Nurse, Nursing Spectrum
- Managed Care Nurse, Nursing Spectrum Medical Careers, Association of American Medical Colleges
- Medicine and Health, WetFeet.com
- Music Therapist, The Council for Exceptional Children
- Nephrology Nurse, Nursing Spectrum
- Nurse, Princeton Review
- Nurse Executive, Nurses for a Healthier Tomorrow
- Nursing, WetFeet.com
- Nutritionist, Princeton Review
- Occupational Health Nurse, Nursing Spectrum
- Occupational Therapist, The Council for Exceptional Children Occupational Therapist, Princeton Review

- Occupational Therapists, California Occupational Guide Occupational Therapists, CareerZone Occupational Therapists, Occupational Outlook Handbook
- Occupational Therapy Occupations, American Medical Association
- Oncology Nurse, Nurses for a Healthier Tomorrow Oncology Nurse, Nursing Spectrum
- Ophthalmic Nurse, Nursing Spectrum
- Optometrist, Princeton Review
- Optometrists, Human Resources and Skills Development Canada
- Optometrists, California Occupational Guide
- Optometrists, Occupational Outlook Handbook
- Orthopaedic Nurse, Nurses for a Healthier Tomorrow
- Orthoptist, American Medical Association
- Otorhinolaryngology Nurse, Nursing Spectrum

- Pediatric Nurse, Nursing Spectrum
- Perianesthesia Nurse, Nursing Spectrum
- Perinatal Nurse, Nursing Spectrum
- Perioperative (O.R.) Nurse, Nurses for a Healthier Tomorrow
- Pharmaceuticals, WetFeet.com
- Pharmacist, Princeton Review
- Pharmacists, Occupational Outlook Handbook
- Pharmacists, California Occupational Guide
- Pharmacists, Job Futures
- Physical Therapist, The Council for Exceptional Children Physical Therapist, Princeton Review
- Physical Therapists, CareerZone
- Physical Therapists, Occupational Outlook Handbook Physical Therapists, California Occupational Guide
- Physical Therapy Occupations, American Medical Association
- Physician, Princeton Review
 Physician Assistant, Princeton Review
- Physician Assistant, American Medical Association
- Physician Assistants, California Occupational Guide Physician Assistants, Occupational Outlook Handbook
- Physicians and Surgeons, Occupational Outlook Handbook Physicians and Surgeons, California Occupational Guide Podiatrists, Occupational Outlook Handbook

- Podiatrists and Doctors of Podiatric Medicine, California Occupational Guide
- Primary Care and Office Nurse, Nursing Spectrum
 Psychiatric Nurse, Nursing Spectrum
- Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurse, Nurses for a Healthier Tomorrow
- Radiation Therapists, California Occupational Guide Radiation therapists, Occupational Outlook Handbook
- Radiologic Technology Occupations, American Medical Association
- Reconstructive Surgical Nurse, Nursing Spectrum
 Recreational Therapists, Occupational Outlook Handbook
 Registered Dietitian, American Dietetic Association
- Registered Nurses, Occupational Outlook Handbook Registered Nurses, Job Futures
- Registered Nurses and Nurse Practitioners, California Occupational Guide
- Rehabilitation Nurse, Nursing Spectrum Respiratory Nurse, Nursing Spectrum
- Respiratory Therapist, American Association for Respiratory Care
- Respiratory Therapists, California Occupational Guide Respiratory Therapists, Occupational Outlook Handbook
- Respiratory Therapy Occupations, American Medical Association School Counselor, The Council for Exceptional Children

- School Nurse, Nurses for a Healthier Tomorrow School Nurse, The Council for Exceptional Children
- Speech Language Pathologist, American Medical Association
- Speech Therapist, Princeton Review
- Speech-Language Pathologist, The Council for Exceptional Children
- Speech-Language Pathologists, CareerZone
- Speech-language pathologists, Occupational Outlook Handbook
 Speech-Language Pathologists, American Speech-Language-Hearing Association
- Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists, California Occupational Guide
- Staff Nurse, Nurses for a Healthier Tomorrow
- Subacute Care Nurse, Nursing Spectrum
- Telephone Triage or Advice Nurse, Nursing Spectrum
- Transplant Nurse, Nursing Spectrum Trauma Nurse, Nursing Spectrum Veterinarian, Princeton Review

- Veterinarians, Human Resources and Skills Development Canada
- Veterinarians, Occupational Outlook Handbook
- Veterinarians and Veterinary Inspectors, California Occupational Guide

Health Technologists and Technicians

- Biological Technologists and Technicians, Job Futures
- Blood Bank Technology-Specialist, American Medical Association
- Cardiovascular Technologist, American Medical Association
- Cardiovascular Technologists and Technicians, Occupational Outlook Handbook
- Clinical Laboratory Science Professional, American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science Clinical Laboratory Science/Medical Technology Occupations, American Medical Association
- Clinical Laboratory Technologists and Technicians, Occupational Outlook Handbook
- Cytotechnologist, American Medical Association Dental Hygienist, American Dental Association
- Dental Hygienists, California Occupational Guide
- Dental Hygienists, Occupational Outlook Handbook

- <u>Dental Hygienists</u>, CareerZone
- Dental Related Occupations, American Medical Association
- Diagnostic Medical Sonographers, Occupational Outlook Handbook Diagnostic Radiologic Technologists, California Occupational Guide
- Dietetic technicians, Occupational Outlook Handbook
- Dietetics, American Medical Association
- Dietitians and Dietetic Technicians, California Occupational Guide
- Dispensing Opticians, California Occupational Guide
- Electrocardiograph Technicians, California Occupational Guide
- Electroneurodiagnostic Technologist, American Medical Association
- Emergency Medical Technician-Paramedic, American Medical Association
- Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics, California Occupational Guide Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics, Occupational Outlook Handbook
- Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics, CareerZone
- Health Information Management Occupations, American Medical Association
- Histotechnician (HT), American Society for Clinical Pathology
- Laboratory Assistants and Laboratory Technicians (Except Health), California Occupational Guide
- Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses, CareerZone
- icensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses, Occupational Outlook Handbook
- Licensed Vocational Nurses, California Occupational Guide
- Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technologists, California Occupational Guide
- Medical Appliance Technicians, Learn More Resource Center
- Medical Laboratory Technician (MLT), American Society for Clinical Pathology
- Medical Records and Health Information Technicians, California Occupational Guide
- Medical Records and Health Information Technicians, Occupational Outlook Handbook
- Medical Records and Health Information Technicians, CareerZone
- Medical Technologist (MT), American Society for Clinical Pathology
- Neonatal Nurse, Nurses for a Healthier Tomorrow
- Nuclear Medicine Technologist, American Medical Association
- Nuclear Medicine Technologists, Occupational Outlook Handbook
- Ophthalmic Dispensing Optician, American Medical Association
- Ophthalmic Medical Personnel, Association of Technical Personnel in Ophthalmology
- Opthalmic Professions, American Medical Association
- Opticians, Human Resources and Skills Development Canada
- Opticians, Dispensing, Occupational Outlook Handbook
- Optometric Technician and Optometric Assistant, California Occupational Guide
- Orthotist and Prosthetist, American Medical Association
- Orthotists and prosthetists, Occupational Outlook Handbook
- Orthotists and Prosthetists, Learn More Resource Center
- Paramedic, Princeton Review
 Perfusionist, American Medical Association
- Pharmacy Technicians, California Occupational Guide
- Pharmacy Technicians and Aides, Occupational Outlook Handbook Psychiatric technicians, Occupational Outlook Handbook
- Psychiatric Technicians, California Occupational Guide
- Radiologic Technologists, CareerZone
 Radiologic Technologists and Technicians, Occupational Outlook Handbook
- Radiologic Technology Occupations, American Medical Association
- Registered Dietetic Technician, American Dietetic Association Respiratory therapy technicians, Occupational Outlook Handbook Surgical Technicians, California Occupational Guide

- Surgical Technologist, American Medical Association
 Surgical Technologists, Occupational Outlook Handbook
 Surgical Technology, Association of Surgical Technologists
- <u>Veterinary Technicians (Animal Health Technicians)</u>, California Occupational Guide <u>Veterinary Technologists and Technicians</u>, Occupational Outlook Handbook

Other Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations

- Athletic Trainer, American Medical Association Athletic trainers, Occupational Outlook Handbook
- Dialysis Technician, California Occupational Guide
- Medical and Health Services Managers, Learn More Resource Center
- Music Therapist, American Medical Association
- Occupational Health and Safety Specialists, Occupational Outlook Handbook
- Occupational health and safety technicians, Occupational Outlook Handbook
- Therapeutic Recreation Specialist, American Medical Association
- Women's Health Nurse Practitioner, Nurses for a Healthier Tomorrow

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